

For Immediate Release:

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Contact:

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City Clerk

San Jose Redistricting Advisory Commission Community Meetings

SAN JOSE, CA - The City of San José announces its upcoming meeting schedule to gather community input regarding the City's redistricting efforts following the 2010 Census. Under the City Charter, the Redistricting Advisory Commission is appointed by the City Council and meets every ten years to establish the boundaries of each of the ten City Council districts. The Commission must make its recommendations to the City Council by May 31, 2011. The City Council must adopt an ordinance establishing the revised district boundaries by October 31, 2011 to be in effect for the 2012 elections.

As a part of its process, the Commission invites comments from community groups and individual residents regarding City Council district boundaries. The Commission is conducting a series of 15 meetings and hearings, including at least one in each Council district. There are five meetings remaining, which will be held:

Date	Time	Location
Monday, May 16	6:30 p.m.	Cypress Senior Center 403 Cypress Avenue
Wednesday, May 18	6:30 p.m.	Almaden Community Center 6445 Camden Avenue
Thursday, May 19	6:30 p.m.	Edenvale Community Center 330 Branham Lane East
Monday, May 23	6:30 p.m.	City Hall, Council Chambers 200 E. Santa Clara Street
Thursday, May 26	6:30 p.m.	City Hall, Wing – Room 120 200 E. Santa Clara Street

Commission Guidelines:

The Commission has adopted guidelines, based upon the City Charter and other considerations, as principles governing their work. The adopted guidelines are attached.

Based upon the 2010 census, the City's population is 952,612 persons. Therefore, the mean population of each Council district should be approximately 95,261 residents. Based upon the current Council district boundaries, the least populated Council district has 88,645 residents and the most populated district has 102,999 people. The City Charter mandates the Commission to "Make the Districts as nearly equal in population as may be practicable."

Commission Membership:

The Redistricting Advisory Commission is appointed by the City Council. Each Councilmember appoints one member as a representative of their district and the Chairperson is appointed by the Mayor. The members of the 2011 Commission include:

District	Member
Mayor	Rich De La Rosa, Chair
1	Cynthia Cobb
2	Forrest Williams
3	Erik Schoennauer
4	Mike Flaughner
5	Andrea Flores Shelton
6	Chris Schumb
7	Dustin De Rollo
8	Bonnie Mace
9	Judy Chirco, Vice-Chair
10	Dave Fadness

Commission Communications:

The Commission has established a web site which contains information regarding upcoming Commission meetings, correspondence received by the Commission, proposed population transfer areas, and other information as the Commission completes its work. The website is:

<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/redistricting/2011redistricting.asp>

Members of the public may submit comments and suggestions directly to the Commission through the following dedicated email address:
2011redistricting@sanjoseca.gov

For further information, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at (408) 535-1260 or cityclerk@sanjoseca.gov

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**City of San Jose – Redistricting Advisory Commission
2011 Adopted Guidelines**

MANDATORY GUIDELINES

▪ Make the Districts as nearly equal in population as may be practicable
▪ Comply with Federal Voting Rights Act

OTHER GUIDELINES FOR CONSIDERATION

➤ **CHARTER**

- Give consideration to natural boundaries, street lines, and/or City boundaries
- Give consideration to geography
- Give consideration to cohesiveness, contiguity, integrity, and compactness of territory
- Give consideration to community of interests within each district

➤ **2001 COMMISSION**

- Maintain continuity of existing Council Districts to the extent possible
- Where boundaries meet Charter requirements, maintain continuity of existing Council Districts as much as possible
- Avoid unseating current City Council members
- Comply with all applicable laws, including the avoidance of gerrymandering
- Equalize the population count in each District within 10%
- Minimize the dilution of votes, and avoid the fragmentation or the over compaction of ethnic communities
- To the extent possible, provide income diversity within Districts
- Strive to balance District interests with City-wide interests, but not at the expense or exclusion of individual Districts
- To the extent possible, recognize the importance of parks and public facilities in Districts
- Where possible, do not divide school districts between separate Council Districts
- Maintain cohesive neighborhoods within Districts and, where possible, keep neighborhood associations within a single District

➤ **PROPOSITION 11**

- Follow Voting Rights Act
- Develop geographically compact districts
- Develop reasonably equal population of districts
- Do not favor or discriminate against political incumbents, candidates, or parties
- Maintain “communities of interest” and neighborhoods

➤ **PROPOSITION 20**

- Definition of “community of interest”:

A community of interest is a contiguous population which shares common social and economic interests that should be included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair representation. Examples of such shared interests are those common to an urban area, a rural area, an industrial area, or an agricultural area, and those common to areas in which the people share similar living standards, use the same transportation facilities, have similar work opportunities, or have access to the same media of communication relevant to

the election process. Communities of interest shall not include relationships with political parties, incumbents, or political candidates.